

SN 09/716156

William Lawrence Muckelroy, P.C.
A Professional Corporation
1901 N. Olden Avenue, Suite 3A
Trenton, New Jersey 08618
(609) 882-2111
William L. Muckelroy
Registration No. 26, 961

In Re Patent Application of
Thomas Mason, et al.

U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 09/716,156

Examiner: Stephen D'Adamo
Art Unit: 3636

Filing Date: 11/20/2000

Title: Improved Bleacher Chair and
Method of Vending Same

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND ELECTION WITH TRAVERSE

TO: The Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box Non-Fee Amendments
Washington, D.C. 20231

Please amend claim 13 as follows:

Claim 13 (amended). A method for the rental of a portable bleacher chair as specified in claim 1,
the method being used for events having bleacher seating , the method being for rental to a
customer attending said event, which method comprises:

- (a) providing an inventory of bleacher chairs at a location proximate to said event,
each said bleacher chair comprising a unique identification means for uniquely
identifying each said bleacher chair, said identification means being laser scannable
into a computer;
- (b) providing a computer means for digitally storing the unique identification means
for each bleacher chair;
- (c) providing a credit card scanning means for scanning the renter's credit card and
obtaining a set of data therefrom when the renter checks out a bleacher chair, the

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computer means matching the data to the unique identification means for the bleacher chair rented;

(d) the computer means further having a signature capture means for electronically capturing said renter's signature authorizing a transaction, the computer means further having a wireless digital phone connection means for sending and receiving credit card data and a printing means for printing a receipt of said transaction;

(e) providing a means for electronically charging and releasing a monetary deposit for said bleacher chair rental; and,

(f) releasing the deposit by scanning the unique identification means associated with said bleacher chair upon its return to inventory.

This Preliminary Amendment is also a plenary response to an Office Action, mailed on September 4, 2002 requiring an election/restriction. Accordingly, the applicants elect as follows:

Election With Traverse

The applicants elect to prosecute the class II claims 13-15, drawn to the rental of a chair, classified in class 705, subclass 1.